to the Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR). Under the scheme of NLCPR, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER) is given a budgetary provision from "the pool" for infrastructure development in the North-Eastern States. Projects sanctioned include the Power sector (Generation, Transmission and Distribution), Roads and Bridges, Irrigation, Education, Health, Water Supply, Sports etc. In addition, the North-Eastern Council (NEC), which is a statutory body, also sanctions infrastructure development projects for the region. Infrastructure is also created through the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) and the Hill Areas Development Programme (HADP). Besides, the North -Eastern States, including Sikkim are categorized as Special Category States by GoI. Their Annual Plans, which *inter alia* are used for infrastructure development, are funded on a 90:10 (grant: loan) basis as per the special policy dispensations

(b) The State-wise lists of projects sanctioned under NLCPR scheme are available on the Ministry's website under the head of 'NLCPR' and State-wise sub head "e. Sanctioned Projects". The lists of projects retained under the scheme for techno-economic examination are available under State-wise sub-head "d. Retained Projects".

The details of projects undertaken in the North-Eastern Region under NEC Plan during the last 3 years, project-wise and State-wise, are available on the website of NEC *viz. www.necouncil.gov.in.*

Help to farmers by NEDFC

1820. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that North-Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFI) has prepared any scheme in order to help the farmers through micro credit;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is expected to be implemented; and

(c) the amount of funds allocated to the farmers by NEDFI during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) While there are no schemes of the North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFI) specifically designed to help farmers directly through micro credit, NEDFI are helping faremrs by accommodating their proposals under schemes like Micro Finance (MF), North East Entrepreneur Development Scheme (NEEDS) and Women Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (WEDS).

(c) NEDFI does not make sectoral fund allocations under any Scheme. However, disbursements made for agriculture and allied activities under all their schemes during the period 1.4.2007 to 30.11.2007 amounts to approximately Rs. 20.00 lakh.

River conservation responsibility

†1821. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to handover river conservation responsibility to the States;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.